



MECKLENBURG COUNTY  
Health Department  
November 16, 2009  
Influenza A H1N1 Advisory

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**Highlights:**

- **Optimizing use of existing supplies of H1N1 vaccine by following ACIP guidelines**
- **Algorithm for vaccine use**
- **Approved usage for H1N1 injectable/Medimmune intranasal (LAIV) vaccine**

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- Mecklenburg County providers have been receiving small supplies of H1N1 vaccine over the past several weeks. The state recently indicated that supplies will be less than expected for the next two weeks. The majority of vaccine received has been LAIV. In an effort to immunize as many people as possible in the high priority groups, we are urging all providers to be familiar with ACIP guidelines for vaccine usage and make appropriate recommendations to their patients. The Health Department's Medical Director will recommend, based on ACIP guidelines, the appropriate vaccine for persons receiving the vaccine from any Health Department sponsored clinic, not necessarily the vaccine that is requested by the person or the person's medical provider.
  - In order to optimally match the limited supply of vaccine with the currently targeted population, the Health Department will use the following algorithm:
    - Preservative-free vaccine will be used only for pregnant women and children under 2 y/o.
    - Injectable vaccine containing preservative will be used for people who cannot take LAIV.
    - LAIV will be given to all others.
  - **H1N1 injectable** vaccine is approved for:
    - Children 6 months of age and older
    - Pregnant women
    - Adults of any age

**LAIV** is approved for use in healthy people 2-49 years of age **who are not pregnant**. Although LAIV cannot cause flu illness, people in the following categories **should not** be immunized with LAIV:

- Children less than 2 years of age
- People 50 years of age and over
- Pregnant women
- People with a medical condition that places them at high risk for complications from influenza, including:
  - Chronic heart disease
  - Asthma, reactive airways or other chronic lung disease
  - Diabetes or kidney failure
  - Illnesses that weaken the immune system or persons who take medications that can weaken the immune system
  - Children or adolescents receiving aspirin therapy
  - People with a history of Guillain-Barre syndrome
  - People with a history of allergy to any of the components of LAIV or to eggs
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Thank you for your cooperation in our community-wide effort to optimally utilize our limited vaccine supply. For more information, contact the H1N1 call center at 704.432.3600.